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Remarks.

The Examiner's comments and objections and the new cited reference of Chaco have been carefully considered by the Applicant.

Reconsideration of the application as hereby amended is respectfully requested.

Main claims 51 and 70 are different in scope and have been further amended to set forth that the transponders used *are passive RFID transponders* and that the *predefined non-modifiable unique identification code for said hospital product or patient to be correlated is pre-entered and stored by a manufacturer of the transponder device in the first memory means.*

Additionally, in claim 70 has been claimed that the remote transfer means are constituted by *at least one remote computer connected in a network,.... the remote computer.. provided with software for managing the processor-equipped control means and for managing data downloaded from the at least one memory for storing data transactions;*

The amendments have support in the specification. No new matter has been added.

Neither Holowoko et al nor Chaco discloses the above features.

Holowoko et al disclose (columns 8-9, lines 63-67 and 1-8, respectively) a step 36 for assigning to a pump 26 (or other medical device) an internal tracking number *to be saved to a memory accessible by the CPU of the device (or pump)*, that should be established and entered at will by an operator. The CPU is a microcontroller or a microprocessor or other control unit with software/firmware (columns 4-5, lines 62-67 and 1-7, respectively). These should necessarily be electrically fed devices, of the "active type".

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On the other hand, Chaco discloses (column 17, lines 24-33; column 16, lines 17-24 and 49-50; column 8, line 66; and column 9, line 8) a RF a microchip mobile interface system fed by a Lithium battery.

Such system, in order to perform the functions taught by Chaco has a software/firmware suitable to perform reading/writing operations on a smartcard, acting actually as a smartcard reader with a host interface of a RF type.

Thus, even by substituting the CPU of Holowoko et al with the battery fed microchip of Chaco, the one skilled in the art would not arrive to a device as the one claimed in newly submitted claims 51 and 70.

The technical advantage of the claimed arrangement, besides the suitability of the highly reliable passive RFID transponders for use in disposable identification devices, they are already bearing an identification code that is unique and needs no intervention of, and cannot be modified by an operator that may make errors.

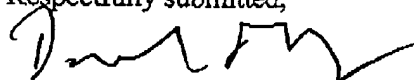
Therefore, newly submitted claims 51-70, pending in the application, are believed to be in an allowable condition.

Favorable action is respectfully solicited.

While it is believed that the amended claims properly and clearly define the present invention, applicant would be open to any suggestion or amendment the Examiner may have or propose concerning different claim phraseology which, in the Examiner's opinion, more accurately defines the present invention.

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Respectfully submitted,



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